United States Embassy, Dhaka, Bangladesh Security Message for U.S. Citizens

Mass Demonstration on December 18, 2013

December 18, 2013

An anti-Pakistan demonstration has been called for 3:00 p.m. today, December 18, 2013. The possible areas affected by the demonstration are North Gulshan Avenue, DIT 2 Circle, and Banani Club Field.

The U.S. Embassy is advising all of its personnel to avoid the area of the demonstration today. Although the demonstration is intended to be peaceful, such large gatherings can quickly escalate into violence. As always, remain vigilant, avoid crowds, and be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security and follow instructions of local authorities.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Bangladesh enroll in the Department of State's <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)</u>. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Internet website at travel.state.gov where the Worldwide Caution, Country Specific Information, Travel Warnings, and Travel Information, and Travel Information as well. Download our free Smart Traveler app, available through Travel Information at your fingertips.

In addition to information on the internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, from other countries, on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Friday, Eastern Time (except U.S. federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy is located at Madani Avenue, Baridhara, Dhaka, Bangladesh 1212, and by telephone at (88) (02) 882-3805 during regular hours. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy is (88) (02) 885-5500. For after-hours emergency services please press "0" and ask for the duty officer.

American Citizens Services U.S. Embassy Dhaka, Bangladesh

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